**Kitchen**

As usual, my mom is already awake. She notices as I walk into the kitchen, and gestures towards the plate of toast that sits on the table.

Mom (neutral smiling): Good morning.

Mom (neutral frown): Something wrong? You look a little pale…

Pro: Oh, I’m fine.

Mom (neutral confused): Alright, if you say so.

She turns back to the dishes, and I start to eat my breakfast.

Mom (neutral neutral): Oh, by the way Pro. Could you go grocery shopping after school today?

Pro: Oh, sure.

Mom (neutral smiling): Thanks. I’ll text you what we need.

I finish up my breakfast, and my mom comes over to pick up my plate.

Mom: Go brush your teeth and get going, okay?

**Front of House**

After quickly brushing my teeth and grabbing my lunch, I head outside and am greeted by Mara’s cheerful face.

Mara (waving smiling\_eyes\_closed): Hey.

Pro: Morning.

Mara (neutral smiling): Nice day, today, huh?

Pro: Yeah, it is.

Mara: You sleep okay last night?

Pro: Yeah.

Mara (neutral thinking):

She pauses to inspect my hair.

Mara (neutral smiling\_eyes\_closed): Well then, let’s go!

**Neighbourhood Road 1**

Mara is a little less energetic than usual today, and instead of shifting around like she normally does, she walks by my side.

Mara (neutral neutral): Hey, you sure you slept well last night?

Can’t hide anything, huh?

Pro: I had a bad dream. A falling dream.

Mara: I see.

Mara (neutral embarrassed):

Whenever Mara had a bad dream when we were younger, the next morning we’d go to school holding hands. We stopped doing that when we got older, but as we walk Mara tentatively reaches for my hand, squeezing it quickly before letting go.

**Intersection 1**

Mara (neutral neutral):

We walk the rest of the way in silence, and eventually we reach the intersection where we part ways.

Pro: Hey, Mara.

Pro: I have to go grocery shopping after school today. Wanna come with?

Mara: Um…

Mara (neutral nervous): Sorry, I already have something.

Mara: Next time, okay?

Mara (neutral neutral):

Pro: Alright, don’t worry about it.

Pro: I’ll see you later.

Mara (neutral smiling\_eyes\_closed): See you.

Mara (exit):

Mara walks down the road to her school, and I continue towards mine, with the warmth of her hand still lingering on my fingertips.